



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

COUTTS, ALBERTA ARRESTS AND SEIZURE

DATE: 2022-02-18, current as of 1500hrs

KEY POINTS

- Publication Ban
- The RCMP laid 31 charges against the 13 individuals that were arrested. The charges included Conspiracy to Commit Murder, Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, and Mischief Over \$5,000, and Uttering Threats.
- During the arrests, the police seized several firearms, multiple sets of body armour, a machete, a large quantity of ammunition and high capacity magazines.

Background

The Government of Canada announced in November 2021 that certain categories of travellers, including truck drivers, who were exempt from entry COVID-19 related requirements, would be required to be fully vaccinated with approved vaccines for entry into Canada as of January 15, 2022. When the policy was officially implemented, several truckers and politicians were opposed to the mandate.

A nationwide convoy against the vaccine mandates for trucking industry workers ensued. This event entitled "Freedom Convoy 2022" was created through social media and was advertised as a fundraiser. The convoy began on 2022-01-22 and arrived in Ottawa between 2022-01-28 and 2022-01-29. The protesters are demanding that the Government remove all COVID-19 health measures.

Several convoys, demonstrations and protests followed across Canada and the world in order to show solidarity to the ongoing trucker "Freedom Convoy" including the protest in Coutts, Alberta. This protest resulted in the closure of Alberta's main international border crossing and the only one open 24-hour for a period of 18 days due to the illegal blockade. The occupation started on 2022-01-29 and ended on the morning of 2022-02-15.

Course of Events

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The RCMP conducted a search warrant on the morning of 2022-02-14 on three trailers allegedly associated with the small-organized group. This action led to the

- seizure of 13 long guns, handguns, multiple sets of body armour, a machete, a large quantity of ammunition and high capacity magazines; and,
- arrest and detainment of 11 individuals.

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Two additional arrests were made during the day of 2022-02-14 in connection to the Coutts border protest.

- The 12th arrest took place on the highway and involved an individual on-route to the protest site. Two firearms were seized.
- The 13th arrest involved a semi-truck driver who accelerated in the direction of police officers. **Publicatio**

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Charges

The RCMP has laid charges against 13 individuals arrested regarding the incidents at the Coutts border protest. The charges included Conspiracy to Commit Murder (4), Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose (14), Uttering Threats (1), and Mischief over \$5,000 (14).

The following individuals (4) have been charged with Conspiracy to Commit Murder, Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, and Mischief Over \$5,000:

- Chris Carbert (44), Chris Lysak (48), Anthony Olienick (39), and Jerry Morin (40).

The following individual (1) has been additionally charged with Uttering Threats:

- Chris Lysak (48)

The following individuals (9) have been charged with Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, and Mischief Over \$5,000:

- Jaclyne Martin (39), Ursula Allred (22), Joanne Person (62), Luke Berk (62), Evan Colenutt (23), Johnson Law (39), Justin Martin (22), Eastin Oler (22), and Janx Zaremba (18).

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